Amendments to the Claims

Please replace the Claims as shown below:

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:

determining with an electronic sensor module ~~whether an~~ whether a first electronic device of a plurality of electronic devices coupled to an equipment rack ~~is being slid~~ has been pulled out of said equipment rack, wherein said electronic sensor module is coupled to said first electronic device;

provided said first electronic device ~~is being slid~~ has been pulled out of said equipment rack, preventing with an electronic locking module ~~any remaining~~ a second electronic device of said plurality of electronic devices from ~~being slid~~ being pulled out of said equipment rack ~~thereby reducing the chances that said equipment rack will tip over~~;

determining with said electronic sensor module whether said first electronic device has ~~been slid~~ been pushed back into said equipment rack; and

provided said first electronic device has ~~been slid~~ been pushed back into said equipment rack, deactivating said preventing.

2. (currently amended) The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said ~~electronic device~~ first electronic device is selected from a server computer, a router, a disk array, a computing device, a telecommunications device, an electronic data storage device, and a piece of electronic equipment.

3. (original) The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said electronic sensor module is selected from an optical sensor, a proximity sensor, a mechanical switch, an electro-mechanical sensor, a mechanical sensor, an ultrasonic sensor, a hall-effect sensor, and a Linear Variable Differential Transformer (LVDT).

4. (original) The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said electronic locking module is selected from a solenoid, a solenoid capable of engaging and disengaging a pin or a type of latch, an electric motor capable of engaging and disengaging a pin or a type of latch, an electro-mechanical device, solid state circuitry, and a magnetic latch.

5. (currently amended) The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said ~~determining whether said electronic device has been slid back into said equipment rack involves said electronic sensor module~~ electronic sensor module for detecting the proximity of a vertical support column of said equipment rack.

6. (currently amended) The method as described in Claim 1, wherein said ~~plurality of electronic devices~~ first electronic device coupled to said equipment rack with a ~~slide rail~~ rail slide.

7. (currently amended) The method as described in Claim 6, wherein ~~said electronic sensor module and~~ said electronic locking module ~~are coupled to said slide rail~~ is coupled to said second electronic device.

8. (currently amended) A system comprising:

a sensor module for detecting when a first electronic device coupled to an equipment rack ~~is being slid~~ has been pulled out of said equipment rack, said sensor module coupled to said first electronic device;

a locking module for preventing a second electronic device coupled to said equipment rack from ~~being slid~~ being pulled out of said equipment rack ~~to reduce the chances that said equipment rack will tip over~~ when said sensor module detects said first electronic device has been pulled out of said equipment rack; and

an electronic control module coupled to said sensor module and said locking module.

9. (currently amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein said first electronic device and said second electronic device ~~is selected~~ are selected from a server computer, a router, a disk array, a computing device, a telecommunications device, an electronic data storage device, and a piece of electronic equipment.

10. (previously presented) The system of Claim 8, wherein said sensor module is selected from an optical sensor, a proximity sensor, a mechanical switch, a mechanical sensor, an electro-mechanical sensor, an ultrasonic sensor, a hall-effect sensor, and a Linear Variable Differential Transformer (LVDT).

11. (previously presented) The system of Claim 8, wherein said locking module is selected from a solenoid, an electro-mechanical device, a solenoid

capable of engaging and disengaging a pin or a latch, an electric motor capable of engaging and disengaging a pin or a latch, solid state circuitry, and a magnetic latch.

12. (previously presented) The system of Claim 8, wherein said electronic control module is selected from a processor, a controller, a state machine, and a microprocessor.

13. (currently amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein said sensor module also for detecting when said first electronic device has ~~been slid~~ been pushed back into said equipment rack.

14. (currently amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein ~~said electronic control module controls~~ said locking module ~~based on electronic information received from said sensor module~~ is coupled to said second electronic device.

15. (currently amended) A system comprising:

an electronic sensor module for sensing when a first electronic ~~device~~ equipment coupled to an equipment rack ~~is being slid~~ has been pulled out of said equipment rack, said electronic sensor module coupled to said first electronic equipment;

an electronic locking module for restricting a second electronic ~~device~~ equipment coupled to said equipment rack from ~~being slid~~ being pulled out of said equipment rack; and

an electronic control module coupled to said electronic sensor module and said electronic locking module~~, wherein said system reduces the chances that said equipment rack will tip over~~.

16. (currently amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein said first electronic ~~device~~ equipment and said second electronic equipment ~~is selected~~ are selected from a server computer, a router, a disk array, a computing device, a telecommunications device, an electronic data storage device, and a piece of electronic equipment.

17. (previously presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein said electronic sensor module is selected from an optical sensor, a proximity sensor, a mechanical switch, a mechanical sensor, an electro-mechanical sensor, an ultrasonic sensor, a hall-effect sensor, and a Linear Variable Differential Transformer (LVDT).

18. (previously presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein said electronic locking module is selected from a solenoid, an electro-mechanical device, a solenoid capable of engaging and disengaging a pin or a latch, an electric motor capable of engaging and disengaging a pin or a latch, solid state circuitry, and a magnetic latch.

19. (previously presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein said electronic control module is selected from a processor, a controller, a state machine, and a microprocessor.

20. (currently amended) The system of Claim 15, ~~wherein said electronic control module controls said electronic locking module based on electronic information received from said electronic sensor module~~ further comprising:

a second electronic sensor module for sensing when said second electronic equipment has been pulled out of said equipment rack, said second electronic sensor module coupled to said second electronic equipment; and

a second electronic locking module for restricting said first electronic equipment from being pulled out of said equipment rack, wherein said electronic control module coupled to said second electronic sensor module and said second electronic locking module.